

# *Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2010*

## **TOWN OF ST. Michaels**

June 1, 2011

PWSID 0200006

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the water quality and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

Our water source is two active wells which draw from an underground source known as the Aquia Aquifer. The depth of our wells are approximately 465 feet. The earth between the surface and this underground aquifer helps to purify the water before it actually reaches the aquifer, making it easier for us to treat before we pump it into our water distribution system.

This report shows our water quality and what it means.

We have a source water protection plan available from our office that provides more information such as potential sources of contamination. This plan is also available through the Talbot County Public Library and from Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Jeff Richardson at (410) 745-9535. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Council meetings which are held on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month beginning at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall.

The Town of St. Michaels routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2010, or as otherwise indicated. As water travels over the land or underground, it can pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose a health risk.

In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

*Non-Detects (ND)* - laboratory analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present.

*Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)* - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

*Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l)* - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

*Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter* - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

*Action Level* - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

**Maximum Contaminant Level** - The “Maximum Allowed” (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal** - The “Goal”(MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

TEST RESULTS						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Radioactive Contaminants						
Beta/photon emitters Well #2 (2008) Well # 3 (2007)	N N	11.0 11.0	pCi/l	0	50	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Alpha emitters Well #2 (2008) Well # 3 (2007)	N N	< 1.0 3.0	pCi/l	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants						
Arsenic (quarterly) Well # 2 (average) Well # 3 (average)	Y N	14.8 1.6	ppb	n/a	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Copper (Distribution)	N	0.31	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (Distribution)	N	0	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride Well #2 (2008) Well #3 (2008)	N N	0.35 0.25	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Chromium Well #2 (2008) Well #3 (2008)	N N	2.6 3.1	ppb	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) Well # 2 Well # 3	N N	< 1.0 < 1.0	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Volatile Organic Contaminants						
TTHM (Distribution) [Total trihalomethanes]	N	0	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 [Haloacetic Acids] (Distribution)	N	0	ppb	0	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Unregulated Contaminants						
Sodium Well # 2 (2008) Well # 3 (2008)	N N	77 76	ppm	n/a	n/a	Erosion of natural deposits
Chloroform Well # 2 (2007) Well # 3 (2007)	N N	1.4 ND	ppb	n/a	n/a	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Note: Test results are for year 2010 unless noted otherwise; testing for all contaminants is not required annually.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man made. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The Town of St. Michaels is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your drinking water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

**NOTE: As can be seen by results listed in the above tables, lead, which is tested for triennial (every 3 years) in accordance with Federal and State Regulations in St. Michaels's distribution system, was not detected in our most recently collected samples in 2010..**

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation. Our water users and the public were notified of this violation by Public Notification at the time of this occurrence by direct mailing and by posting of this notice in public places such as the Library and St. Michaels Post Office..

We routinely monitor for the presence of contaminants in drinking water. The compliance determination by the Maryland Department of the Environment for 2010 shows that our system exceeded the standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL) for Arsenic. The standard for Arsenic is 10 parts per billion (ppb). The average level of Arsenic over the last four quarters, ending December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2010, for Plant No. 3 (well #2 – Marengo Street) was 14.8 ppb.

This was not an immediate risk. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. On January 23, 2006, the new Arsenic Rule became effective. This rule lowered the MCL from 50 ppb to the current level of 10 ppb. Some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

The following steps have been taken to remedy this situation. The arsenic filtration media was replaced again in our plant #3 (well #2) and maintenance schedules have been adjusted. It should be noted that once regular testing revealed an exceedance for the arsenic MCL, use of this well was temporarily discontinued and water from the affected well did not enter the distribution system. The well has been in compliance since March 2011 and is now in use. Quarterly monitoring for arsenic continues on both of our plants. At the present time, our system has been returned to full compliance by MDE.

MCLs are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. These improvements are sometimes reflected as rate structure adjustments. Thank you for understanding.



## Consumer Confidence Report Certification

Water Supply System Name: ST. MICHAELS

PWSID: 0200006 County: TALBOT

I confirm that the Consumer Confidence Report for the year **2010** has been distributed to customers (and appropriate notices of availability have been given) in accordance with COMAR 26.04.01 by July 1, 2011. Further, the system certifies that the information contained in the report is correct and consistent with the compliance monitoring data previously submitted to the privacy agency.

Certified by: Name STANLEY J. RICHARDSON

Signature S. J. Richardson / skw

Title PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

Phone # 410-745-5147 Date 6.20.2011

### Additional Information:

System-specific details on CCR distribution to customers are outlined below: (check all that apply)

☐ CCR was distributed by mail.

☐ CCR was distributed by other methods. List methods of delivery \_\_\_\_\_

☒ A notice of CCR availability was published.

☒ Good faith efforts were used to reach non-bill paying consumers. Those efforts included the following recommended methods.

☐ Posting the CCR on the Internet at: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Mailing the CCR to postal patrons (bulk mail) within the service area. (attach zip codes used).

☐ Advertising availability of the CCR in news media (attach copy of announcement).

☒ Publication of CCR in local newspaper (attach copy).

☐ Delivery of multiple copies to single bill addresses serving several persons such as: apartments, businesses, and large private employers.

☒ Delivery to community organizations (attach a list). POST OFFICE + LIBRARY

### Mandatory for systems serving 100,000 or more persons

☐ Posted CCR on a publicly accessible Internet site. List Internet address: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Delivered CCR to other agencies. (Optional, attach list).

☐ Other (if additional methods used, attach description)

**Consumer Confidence Report Due to customers and MDE by July 1<sup>st</sup> each year**  
**Certification of Delivery Due to MDE by October 1<sup>st</sup> each year.**

## Maryland Code of Regulations

### 26.04.01.20-2 Consumer Confidence Report Delivery

(G) The supplier of water to a community water system shall make a good faith effort to reach consumers who do not get water bills, using means recommended by the Approving Authority. Good faith effort will be tailored to the consumers who are served by the system but are not bill-paying customers, such as renters or workers. A good faith effort to reach consumers would include a mix of methods appropriate to the particular system such as: posting the reports on the Internet; mailing to postal patrons in metropolitan areas; advertising the availability of the report in the news media; publication in a local newspaper; posting in public places such as cafeterias or lunch rooms of public buildings; delivery of multiple copies for distribution by single-biller customers such as apartment buildings or large private employers; or delivery to community organizations.

(1) No later than the date the system is required to distribute the report to its customers, each supplier of water for a community water system shall mail a copy of the report to the Approving Authority, followed within 3 months by a certification that the report has been distributed to customers, and that the information is correct and consistent with the compliance monitoring data previously submitted to the Approving Authority.

(2) No later than the date the system is required to distribute the report to its customers, each community water system shall deliver the report to any other agency or clearinghouse identified by the Approving Authority.

(3) Each community water system shall make its reports available to the public upon request.

(4) Each community water system serving 100,000 or more persons shall post its current year's report to a publicly accessible site on the Internet.

(5) Any supplier of water subject to this regulation shall retain copies of its consumer confidence report for no less than 3 years.

#### **SYSTEMS SERVING < 10,000**

(H) The requirement of §G of this regulation for a supplier of water to a community water systems serving less than 10,000 persons has been waived.

(1) Such systems shall:

(a) Publish the reports in one or more local newspapers serving the area in which the system is located;

(b) Publish a notice in the newspaper, or by other means approved by the State, that informs the customers that the reports will not be mailed; and

(c) Make the reports available to the public upon request.

#### **SYSTEMS SERVING ≤ 500**

(2) Supplier of water to systems serving 500 or fewer persons may forego the requirements of paragraphs (1)(a) and (b) of this section if they provide notice at least once per year to their customers by mail, door-to-door delivery or by posting in an appropriate location that the report is available upon request.

Chesapeake Publishing & Printing  
P.O. Box 600  
29088 Airpark Drive  
Easton, MD 21601

06/20/11

Phone:(410) 770-4000 Fax:(410) 770-4012  
<http://www.stardem.com>

Cust. AcctID: 131	Creation Date: 06/20/11
Name:	Ad Date: 06/22/11
Company: TOWN ST. MICHAELS (L)	Class: 10
Address: PO BOX 206	Ad ID: 2254285
ST. MICHAELS, MD 21663	Ad Taker: SDAFFIN
Telephone: (410) 745-9535	Sales Person: 503
Description: water report	Words: 108
	Lines: 25
	Agate Lines: 50
	Depth: 2.75
	Inserts: 2
	Blind Box:

Other Charges:	\$0.00	Total:	\$68.75
Discount:	\$0.00		
Surcharge:	\$0.00	Paid Amount:	- \$0.00
Credits:	\$0.00		
Bill Depth:	2.75	Amount Due:	\$68.75

CREDIT CARD DETAILS

PT	CT	CN	Number	Exp.	Amnt.

Publication	Start	Stop	Inserts	Cost
Star Democrat	06/22/11	06/22/11	1	\$68.75
US-ChesapeakeInternet	06/22/11	06/22/11	1	\$0.00

Ad Note:

Customer Note:

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWN OF ST. MICHAELS  
WATER QUALITY REPORT

The Town of St. Michaels is pleased to announce that we have the results of the 2010 annual drinking water report. The report is designed to inform you of the quality of water and services that the Town delivers everyday.

A copy of this report is available at the St. Michaels Town Office, 300 Mill Street, during normal business hours and posted in the St. Michaels Branch of the Public Library and the St. Michaels Post Office. A copy has also been posted on the website at [www.townof-stmichaels.com](http://www.townof-stmichaels.com).

BY AUTHORITY OF  
THE COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MICHAELS  
SD 6/22 2254285

We Appreciate Your Business!  
Thank You !

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